



Discipline Policy

As part of the child foster care application process, we need a statement of your discipline policy in our file. Please refer to the following section from Minnesota Rules, parts 2960.3000 to 2960.3340, that govern the licensure of child foster care.

Minnesota Rules, part 2960.3080, Subp. 8. Discipline

Subp. 8. Discipline. The license holder must consider the child's abuse history and developmental, cultural, disability, and gender needs when deciding the disciplinary action to be taken with the child. Disciplinary action must be in keeping with the license holder's discipline policy. The discipline policy must include the requirements in items A and B.

A. Children must not be subjected to:

- (1) corporal punishment, including, but not limited to rough handling, shoving, ear or hair pulling, shaking, slapping, kicking, biting, pinching, hitting, throwing objects at the child, or spanking;
- (2) verbal abuse, including, but not limited to name calling, derogatory statements about the child or child's family, race, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion, culture, or statements intended to shame, threaten, humiliate, or frighten the child;
- (3) punishment for lapses in toilet habits, including bed wetting or soiling;
- (4) withholding of basic needs, including, but not limited to a nutritious diet, drinking water, clothing, hygiene facilities, normal sleeping conditions, proper lighting, educational services, exercise activities, ventilation and proper temperature, mail, family visits, positive reinforcement, nurturing, or medical care. However, a child who destroys bedding or clothing or uses these or other items to hurt the child's self or others, may be deprived of such articles according to the child's care plan;
- (5) assigning work that is dangerous or not consistent with the child's case plan;
- (6) disciplining one child for the unrelated behavior or action of another, except for the imposition of restrictions on the child's peer group as part of a recognized treatment program;
- (7) restrictions on a child's communications beyond the restrictions specified in the child's treatment plan or case plan, unless the restriction is approved by the child's case manager; and
- (8) requirements to assume comfortable or fixed positions for an extended length of time, or to march, stand, or kneel as punishment.

B. The license holder:

- (1) must not require a child to punish other children;
- (2) must follow the child's case plan regarding discipline;
- (3) must not use mechanical restraints or seclusion, as defined in part 2960.3010, subpart 38, with a foster child;
- (4) must ensure that the duration of time-out is appropriate to the age of the child; and
- (5) must meet the requirements of part 9525.2700, subpart 2, item F, regarding the use of aversive or deprivation procedures with a foster child who has mental retardations or a related condition.

Please provide a description of the methods of discipline you will use in your home for children of various ages and needs.

Our Discipline Policy Is:

Name of Foster Family (Please print) _____

Signature of Applicant #1

Date

Signature of Applicant #2

Date